

YEOVIL TOWN SUPPORTERS SOCIETY LTD (Glovers Trust)

Date of Meeting: 18/10/21 @7pm

Those Present.

Brendon Owen (Chair)

Roger Pipe

Ian Perkins (Comms)

Terri Burt (Treasurer)

Vern Edmunds

Barrie David

Mark Kelly

Ben Wood

Mike Hudson

Stuart Tilley (Secretary)

Steve Seaby (former board member)

Apologies.

Announcements/Agenda.

AGM Agenda.

1. Welcome to those attending.
2. Introduction of the board.
3. Brief outline of Trust business over the past 2 years.
4. Treasurer's report.
5. Resolutions:
 - To reach agreement to dispense with the need to have the Trust accounts certified by professional accountants.
6. Questions from the floor.
7. Any other business.

The meeting started with introductions by the secretary of the board members present to the members present & to those on the zoom link. This included the newly elected board members.

Secretary then handed over to the chairman who firstly thanked John, Steve & Adam for firstly being board members for the last year and all their efforts during that time.

He then continued with a brief rundown of the last 2 years events. These included various meetings with SP & as there wasn't a YTFC board this was the only contact who did not want to react or get involved with the supporter groups.

Covid struck which meant no games & no meetings. The Trust Board decided to utilize zoom for its meetings which worked very successfully as we were not all local so we were able to continue with our meetings on a regular basis. From that point of view everything carried on as normal for us as a board. Then November hit us along with SP putting a proposal together with SSDC which meant the local council would buy the club and rent its ground back to YTFC to play on. Various meetings followed between SP, SSDC & GC. Then after much deliberation the Glovers Trust decided to trigger the ACV which gave the trust some 6 months to look into and explore alternative ideas & partners. It was decided that it was a good deal for SP & SSDC but not for YTFC at all & that was why the ACV had been put into place. During this time the trust board continued talking and looking for interested parties to take over the ownership of YTFC, but although there was some interest most of them tended to drift away. A vote was then put to the membership to ascertain if we should continue down this avenue or try to seek new owners. By a huge majority the membership said to continue as most were not happy with the current ownership. One of our members helped to introduce the board to Simul Sports & JJ. We met with Simul Sports head-to-head and immediately a common interest was shared & both parties were thinking along the same lines going forward for YTFC. Simul sports were thoroughly impressed with how the board had discussed YTFC future and our ideas for the future of our club. We had also been looking for other supporters who may be interested in joining a consortium for a buyout. At this time however, we cannot say any more as Simul Sports & SP had entered into an NDA but we do talk to JJ regularly and have done so since May. Though there have been many hurdles to cross it is thought by the board this is the only deal available to us and is right for our club.

Where do we go now? The trust board believes that trust involvement and some ownership is the way forward. There is another bid we are led to believe but the board believes that it is not the correct one for YTFC. Simul Sports is the only way forward.

The chair then spoke about far greater membership numbers into the trust, it is something we are looking deeply into and hoping to improve for a greater future of our club. This would give us a greater voice in what happens in the future which Simul Sports are right behind & would be very happy to talk about in the future & discuss share options with us. We therefore have to form a fighting fund and raise some money to be ready for this to enable us to support and purchase some shares.

Brendon finished with "Come On You Glovers".

The Secretary then called upon the treasurer to give her report on the finances of the trust. This included some donations to Pen mill Ladies football team & the Christian food bank last Christmas. Copies of the treasurer's report and figures are available.

Resolutions.

There is only one resolution and that is to do away with the necessity to have professional accountants agreeing with our accounts. If we make an agreement this evening & pass it

we can have our treasurer agree it and pass it on to the financial conduct authority. This resolution was passed unanimously by the members present. In the future if more money was in the trusts hands it would have to be individually certified.

Questions from the floor.

Q. Is there a time scale with the Simul group?

A. Not as far as we know and they are as frustrated as we are and they believe SP is the hardest person they have ever had to deal with.

Q. Are the other group likely to step up if Simul Sports doesn't go through?

A. We don't know as we have not been in any discussion with them as it would seem they don't want to talk to us and also do not want any supporters on the board.

There was then some talk on the manager and his tactics and the general condition of the stadium as a whole.

Q. How much patience does Simul Sports have with this takeover?

A. They are committed to the takeover big time and have already put a lot of time and effort into fact finding about YTFC and to this end will keep going until asked to leave.

Q. What are the ideas of Simul Sports going forward?

A. They want to build the academy back up and also to have a lady's team again and encourage boys & girls' football. They would also like to have a complete footballing back up in place consisting of fitness, physio & mental health etc to keep a fit all-round team playing at their best.

Q. Is the ACV now dead?

A. No as another one has been put in place.

Questions then started to get a little risky about the overall situation at the club. The secretary had to remind every one present that we could not answer some of these questions because of the NDA that we had been asked to adhere too. These types of questions were then dropped.

General discussion then followed about the takeover and what it could mean going forward and it was more important about the club rather than it's surrounding acreage. We also have to plan for the worst case in case this should happen. It was agreed between the board that our thoughts have shifted so that going forward and having some ownership this should not be able to happen again and again as in the past.

Members present agreed that the board had become more professional in its views and actions and had been extremely busy.

Roger then spoke about the Simul Sports and the trust's board vision married very well together and having a Community Benefit Society would enable us to create a share scheme together thus enabling the trust to buy into it. He went on explaining that we had

in depth discussion with the trusts involved with Hereford, Bath City and Exeter and we had gained some valued experiences to go forward with in the future. Roger continued that a draft share scheme had been put together by the board members. Some general discussion then followed by the floor and the board on the type of money may be required to be put in by the membership and how it could be governed.

Some questions put forward by the Zoom membership followed.

Q. Great to see some younger members on the board, but what are we doing to attract more young people to the trust in general?

A. Brendon answered this question, stating that when the trust had been formed there was a young glover's trust section. This had over a period of time hadn't been developed as was expected due to the way things were at the club at that time. The things that we wanted to do at that time never came to fruition because the trust wasn't liked by the club. Also, the board member who was involved in it at the time is no longer on the board and thus unfortunately it faded. Youngsters weren't really interested in the politics of the club they just want to have fun and watch and play football. If Simul Sports do manage to get control of YTFC they are dedicated to get YTFC back up where they think they should be or beyond. That would include getting more youngsters involved in all aspects of the club and its future. In recent months Adam & Steve have been doing a lot of background work to get discounts in various outlets throughout Yeovil which may help to improve the growth of youngsters in the trust group. It could also be down to lack of good football being played at Huish Park and until this improves, we can't expect the youngsters to even watch the local team.

Q. Should we be getting demonstrations and media involvement to press the point that SP is not wanted at YTFC?

A. It was thought that as a trust we cannot get involved with this type of action and as another trust member had said earlier that we had become more professional in our actions and ways. There for we have to sit on the fence and not get to involved in these actions to maintain our professionalism.

Q. Do we have a medium to long term plan from Simul Sports citing it's aims and what it wants to achieve?

A. Their plan is to consolidate in the medium term and to engage with the local council and moving the ground to a new location. They would also like to develop the ground around the new stadium with the council joining in with hubs of well being and mental health that every one would want to come to at YTFC. Off pitch crew to keep players fit and in the correct mental health all round. Also to develop better links with other teams above us and below us to improve our squad. No stone would be left unturned to achieve this. Because of the length of time it has taken to get the takeover completed it has given them time to look into all avenues so they can hit the ground running when it has gone through.

Q. Have the trust managed to engage with G Collis at all?

A. When the proposal came from SSDC originally Brendon had received a call from GC and some ideas matched up but his proposal was just waiting for one call for it to go ahead. Then everything dried up from him and we didn't hear from him for a long time. When we did his tone completely changed and he didn't want any connection with the trust or them on the board. We severed our connection with him and he only ever spoke to the board chairman, where as Simul Sports had engaged with us all from day one.

No further zoom questions.

New board members were asked if they wished to add anything to it.

Mike replied, that he was thoroughly browned off with the current ownership and how it is dragging the club down completely and hoped that by becoming a trust board member he would be able to be involved further with the new owners in getting things turned around.

The secretary then spoke about the catchment area that we have at our disposal as viewed by Simul Sports at our very first meeting with them and how we have to pursue that positive.

More Questions from the floor.

Q. There was a query from the floor about how difficult it was to join or pay on line and could it be rectified.

A. Steve replied that there had been some issue sand it hadn't been easy but we hoped that would be sorted soon. Ian also replied that there is an update due out shortly and hopefully that would resolve the issue.

There were no more questions from the floor

Mark from the floor thanked the board for all its efforts over the last year which was seconded by the others there in attendance.

Brendon then sold a few of the trust scarves to those who wanted to purchase.

Vern talked about an evening with a guest speaker for a way of making some funds for our fighting fund and said he had some ideas that we could discuss at a later date.

The meeting was then brought to a close.

